

MINUTES

OF THE

Twentieth Annual Session

OF THE

Harmony Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

JERUSALEM CHURCH,

LUDLOW, SCOTT COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

On Oct. 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th, 1869.

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS MISS.

PRINTED AT THE ORPHANS' HOME BANNER OFFICE.

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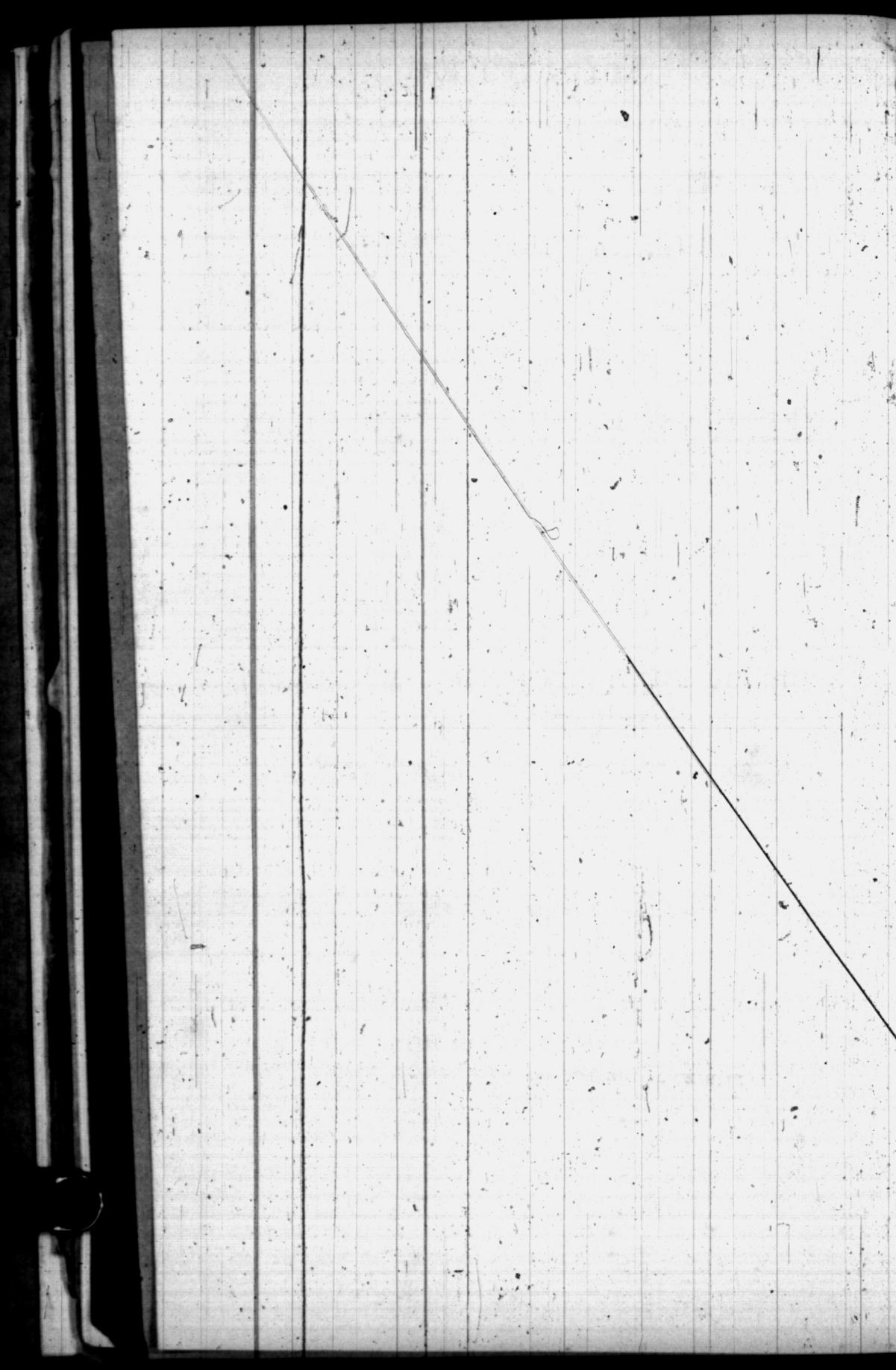
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MINUTES.

Saturday's Proceedings.

Oct. 23rd, 1869, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

The introductory discourse was delivered according to appointment by Elder A. Marshall, from Matthew 16: 18. "Thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

After these services the delegates convened in the house and the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by Bro Wm. Denson. Letters and delegates received from twenty-two churches, and delegates names enrolled.

The Association proceeded to election of officers. Elder Wm. McMurtray Moderator and Bro. D. J. Barnett Clerk. By motion the rules were suspended for the purpose of re-electing Bro. F. C. Davis Treasurer.

Opened the door for the reception of churches: no application

Called for correspondence from sister Associations when Bro. J. J. Crane presented a letter from Mt Pisgah, and upon motion he was admitted to a seat with us in council. Elder J. M. Lewis and Bro. W. E. Dancy were received as messengers from the Central Association. By motion all visiting brethren were admitted to seats with us.

Appointment of Committees.

On Preaching:—The deacons of this church with Bros. W. Taylor, W. P. Gill and W. W. Eley.

On Correspondence:—Elder A. Marshall, Bros. J. N. Denson, and Jesse Hickman.

On the State of Religion:—Elder R. G. Barrett, Bros. Wm. Cockraft and S. C. Billingsly.

On Petitions and Requests:—Elder Wm. Denson, Bros. Thomas Denson and S. H. Horn.

On Nominations:—Elder T. E. Morris, Bros. Green Allen and Geo. W. Davis.

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On Ministerial Education:—Elder A. Marshall, William Denson, and Bro. D. J. Barnett.

On Publications:—Bros. J. N. Nichols, Wm. Ratliff and G. G. Brown.

On Missions:—Bros. J. N. Denson, W. P. Gill and C. W. Stewart.

On Sabbath Schools:—Bros. D. J. Barnett, Thos. H. Boyd and William Bland.

Committee Reported on Preaching:—Elder Wm. McMurtray at 11 o'clock a. m. and Elder J. M. Lewis at 2 p. m. (Sabbath.)

By motion adjourned until Monday 8 a. m.

Sabbath Exercises.

The missionary discourse was delivered agreeable to previous appointment at 11 o'clock by Elder Wm. McMurtray; from Titus 11: 11 & 12.—to a large and attentive audience and we trust with good effect, after which a collection was taken up for Home Missions amounting to \$78 30, also an endowment fund for Home Missions, the interest to be paid annually at 10 per cent, so long as the contributors see proper so to do. Amount \$1370 00.

At 2 o'clock Elder J. M. Lewis preached from Hebrews 6: 20 and 7: 1—4, with good effect, after which a collection was taken up for the benefit of the Orphans' Home Lauderdale Miss.—amount \$60 00.

Monday's Proceedings.

October 25th, 8 o'clock, A. M.

The Association met agreeable to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. Lewis.

The roll was called and all the delegates answered to their names.

The minutes of the preceeding days were read and adopted.

By motion Bro. Eager was admitted to a seat as messenger from the Baptist State Convention of Mississippi.

William Den-
r and G. G.

C. W. Stew-

H. Boyd

McMurtray
(Sabbath.)

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The Committee on Sabbath Schools made their report and was received as reported last year 1868. A motion was made to adopt the report and after some debate it was unanimously adopted with the following quotation: "And these words which I command thee shall be in thy heart, and thou shall teach them diligently unto thy children." (See Appendix A.)

Bro. Sprouse was excused from further attendance upon this body.

By motion adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of hearing an address from Bro. Eager in behalf of the Mississippi College located at Clinton, Mississippi, after which a collection was taken up in cash and subscription amounting to \$38 50.

Evening Session.

Monday 2 o'clock P. M.

The Committee on correspondence made their report which was received and adopted. (See Appendix B.)

The Committee on petitions and requests made their report which was received. By motion the report was taken up article by article.

Article 1st was taken up and rejected.

Article 2nd was taken up and adopted.

Article 3rd was taken up and adopted

Adjourned until 9 o'clock a. m. Tuesday.

Tuesday's Proceedings.

Oct. 26th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The proceedings of yesterday were read and adopted. The Association then took up the 4th article in the report of the Committee upon petitions and requests and after much discussion it was withdrawn by the chair of Committee; and by motion the said article was submitted to a select Committee to report thereon at the next meeting of this body—said committee to consist of J. N. Nichols, R. G. Barrett, Wm. M. Taylor, D. J. Barnett, T. E. Morris, Wm. Cockraft and Green Allen.

Article 5th. was then taken up and withdrawn by chairman of Committee, and submitted to a select Committee of five to report at the next meeting of this body. *Committee*, R. G. Barrett, A. Marshall, Jesse Hickman, D. J. Barnett and Green Allen, and upon motion the Moderator was added.

Article 6th was taken up and adopted. (*See Appendix C.*)

The Committee upon the state of Religion made their report, which was adopted. (*See Appendix D.*)

The Committee on Nominations made their report, which was adopted. (*See Appendix E.*)

The Committee on Ministerial Education made their report, which was adopted. (*See Appendix F.*)

By motion Elder A. Marshall was allowed time to address the body upon the subject of ministerial education.

The Committee upon Publications made their report, which was adopted. (*See Appendix G.*)

The Committee on Missions made their report, which was adopted. (*See Appendix H.*)

The Committee on Finance made their report, which was adopted. (*See Appendix I.*)

The following resolutions were submitted by Bro. Wm. Denson, which were adopted.

Resolved:—That each church be requested to raise a Committee within themselves to take up subscriptions in cash and endowment funds and report the amount of cash to the first meeting of the Executive Board: and the endowment fund to next Association.

Resolved:—That ministers in the Association be requested to devote as much time as is convenient at eligible missionary points, and report to the Board the amount of labor.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. J. N. Denson. *Whereas*, Jerusalem church having asked this body to appoint twelve disinterested brethren to whom the church could refer matters of difference existing amongst them; and *whereas*, this body having decided that it was not her right to do so, therefore be it,

Resolved:—That this body recommend to the brethren of Jerusalem church, that both parties in the spirit of Christ refer their matters of difference to a council called directly from the churches.

Bro. A. Marshall stated that he had given a pledge to the Baptist State Convention of Mississippi in the name of the Harmony Baptist Association, for Home Missionary purposes, for \$30 00. By motion ordered that the amount be drawn from the treasurer of the Association.

The appointment of messengers to sister Associations next claimed the attention of the Association.

Mt. Pisgah;—to be held at Zion church, Kemper County, Miss. including third Sabbath in September 1870.

Messengers; Elder Wm. McMurtray, Bros. Geo. Davis, Thos. H. Boyd and W. C. Brewer.

Strong River;—to be held with Strong River Church on Saturday before third Sabbath in September 1870 Simpson Co. Mississippi.

Messengers; Eld. Wm. Denson, Bro. W. M. Taylor and G. G. Brown.

The Central;—At Terry, Friday before the 2nd Sabbath in October 1870.

Messengers; Elder Wm. McMurtray, A. Marshall and T. E. Morris, Bros. C. L. Davis, D. J. Barnett, W. M. Taylor, I. N. Nichols, Jesse Hickman and W. W. Nichols.

Kosciusko;—*Messengers*—Elders R. G. Barrett; Wm. McMurtray, Bros. Wm. Graves, D. J. Barnett.

The Mississippi Baptist State Convention; will meet on Thursday before 1st. Sabbath in June, 1870, at Okolona Church Miss.

Messengers; Elder Wm. McMurtray, J. M. Pearson, A. Marshall, R. G. Barrett, T. E. Morris, Bros. I. N. Nichols, D. J. Barnett, W. W. Nichols, J. W. Bilbro, Geo. W. Davis, W. H. Denson and J. N. Denson.

By motion appropriated \$5 00 to the Baptist State Convention for minutes.

Resolved That this body furnish to the Clerk a file of the minutes of the proceedings from our organization to the present time, and that he be authorized to have them bound at the expense, and for the benefit of this body.

By motion ordered that the clerk have the proceedings of this body published at the Orphans' Home.

By motion ordered that the Treasurer pay to the different objects specified the amount in his hands.

Resolved, That this church and community is entitled to the thanks of this body for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained us during our session.

Resolved, That the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes and that he receive \$20 00 for his services. And that the Treasurer receive for his services \$5 00.

Resolved, That we allow the advertisement of both the Miss. College and the C. F. Institute to be published on the outer cover of the Minutes of our Association.

Resolved, That we cordially recommend to the patronage of our churches as well as to the community in general the Miss. College and Central Female Institute, located at Clinton Miss. All information respecting each may be obtained by correspondence with Prof. W. Hillman.

By motion, Bro. Green Allen, was appointed Colporteur for this Association, for the ensuing Associational year.

By motion, The churches were requested to send up their contributions to Bro. Wm. McMurtray for the purchase of books for sale and distribution by our Colporteur, by the 1st of January 1870.

Resolved, That in the opinion of Harmony Association the immersion of Campbellite Societies are not scriptural and valid.

By motion, Adjourned to meet with the Mt. Carmel Church, Edenburg, Leake Co. Miss. on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in October 1870, at 11 o'clock, A. M..

WM. McMURTRAY, MODERATOR.

D. J. BARNETT, CLERK.

APPENDICES.

[APPENDIX A.]

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We apprehend that there are very few persons now to be found who are so bold as to oppose the claims of the Sabbath Schools upon the prayerful consideration of all. Indeed we here find a subject so vast in its bearings that we feel that it cannot be presented in two strong a light. The Bible through all its sacred pages woos us to its contemplation and it may well command the attention of man on earth and angels in heaven. "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not." Mark x: 14.

"Remember now thy Creator, in the days of thy youth." Eccl. xii: 1st.
"Train up a child in the way he shall go: and when he is old he will not depart from it." Prov. xxii: 6th. "And these words which I command thee, this day shall be in thy heart and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children." Deut. vi: 7th.

* These and many others of similar import are pointed teachings directed to us and we dare not disregard them. How can we then best feed the dear lambs of the flock and how can we most effectually accomplish their spiritual training? We answer; let the young soil be broken up and prepared to receive the good seed. This can scarcely be better effected than in the Sabbath School; here the little ones come in contact with the mature Christian who will lead them gently along the "still waters" and accustom them to look up to that bright world where all is peace, joy and love. We therefore respectfully recommend that the different Churches comprising this Associa-

tion organize at once Sabbath Schools in their midst, and as far as practicable the members of said Churches to become members of the Sabbath School and be organized into Bible Classes. We further recommend that the Churches send up a report in their letters to the Association, stating the number of Superintendents, Librarians, Teachers and pupils; also the number of volumes in library. And we further recommend that the ministers belonging to this Association deliver Semi-Annual Sabbath School addresses to their respective Congregations. And also that this body appoint one or more suitable brethren whose duty it shall be to deliver a Sabbath School address on Sabbath afternoon at its next annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

D. J. BARNETT, Chairman.

[APPENDIX B.]

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

We your committee have examined the Letters and Minutes of the bodies with whom we correspond and find nothing that claims the attention of this body.

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED MARSHALL, Chairman.

The following named Churches contributed to the Southern Baptist Publication Board located at Memphis Tenn. through Rev. J. M. Lewis for the stereotyping of a book to bear the name of the Harmony Baptist Association.

Mt. Carmel.....	\$5 00	Jerusalem.....	\$5 00
Pelahatchie.....	5 00	Rehoboth.....	5 00
Dokes' Creek.....	5 00	Mt Pisgan.....	5 00
Bethlehem.....	5 00	Center Hill.....	5 00
New Prospect.....	5 00	Canaan.....	5 00
Fellowship.....	5 00	Friendship.....	5 00
Good Hope (Madison).....	5 00	Hays' Creek.....	5 00
Liberty.....	5 00	Good Hope (Leake).....	5 00
Pensacola.....	5 00	Pleasant Hill.....	5 00
Salem.....	5 00	Thomastown.....	5 00

[APPENDIX C.]

REPORT ON PETITIONS AND REQUESTS.

Your Committee beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration and would report as follows:

ART. 1. We respectfully recommend that the petition of Jerusalem Church asking for an advisory council be granted. After debate was rejected.

ART. 2. On the request of New Prospect Church in regard to what course to pursue with her colored members.

We recommend that where their present residence and course of conduct is unknown to the church that they be excluded from fellowship, and that those who are still in reach of the church be notified to come forward and report with a view to remain in the church or granted letters as they may prefer. (Adopted.)

ART. 3. We recommend that the next meeting of this body be held with the Mt. Carmel Church. (Adopted.)

ART. 4. QUESTION FROM REMOVED CHURCH.—Has a church the Scriptural right to request all her male members to attend her regular conference meetings or to tender an excuse for absence or non attendance?

Answer withdrawn by the chairman of committee and referred to a select committee to report to the next meeting of this body.

ART. 5. FROM JERUSALEM CHURCH.—Is it right for Baptists to call on or invite a man to exercise in public in any way in any of their meetings who has been excluded from their fellowship and united with some other denomination before his own denomination authorizes him to exercise publicly? The answer withdrawn by the chairman of committee and referred to a select committee to report to the next meeting of this body. Also, the two following to the same committee as the one from Jerusalem Church.

ART. 1. FROM GOOD HOPE CHURCH, Leake Co.—Is it right for a member or members of a Baptist Church to invite or permit an individual who has been excluded from the fellowship of a Baptist Church and afterwards joined another denomination to exercise in public at any of our meetings in any way before his own denomination authorizes him to exercise in public.

ART. 2. FROM FRIENDSHIP CHURCH.—When a man has been excluded from a Baptist Church and has united with a Pedo-Baptist organization is it right for a member or members of a Baptist Church to invite such individuals to exercise publicly in any way in any of their meetings. Referred as above stated.

We recommend that in compliance with a request from several churches that the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Articles of Faith be published with the Minutes of this session. (Adopted.)

WM. DENSON,	} Committee.
S. H. HORNE,	
T. J. DENSON,	

[APPENDIX D.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION,

Beg leave to make the following report to wit:

1. *Antioch Church*:—Greatly revived and many additions.
2. *Bethesda Church*:—In peace and much revived.
3. *Brandon Church*:—Not represented.
4. *Bethlehem Church*:—In a cold state, and desires your prayers.
5. *Center Hill Church*:—Much revived, and many additions.
6. *Canaan Church*:—Unity and brotherly love abounds.
7. *Dokes' Creek Church*:—Nothing cheering but hope for a better day.
8. *Fellowship Church*:—Revived and many additions.
9. *Friendship Church*:—At peace, and partially revived.
10. *Good Hope Church, Madison Co.*:—Peace and harmony abound.
11. *Hays' Creek Church*:—At peace and asks the prayers of the Association.
12. *Jerusalem Church*:—Complains of coldness, looking for a better day.
13. *Liberty Church*:—Not represented.
14. *Mt. Carmel Church*:—Much revived and some additions.
15. *Mt. Pisgah Church*:—At peace, and desires a revival.
16. *Mt. Zion Church*:—In a cold state, and desires your prayers.
17. *Good Hope Church, Leake Co.*:—The Church much revived and some additions.
18. *Mt. Sinai*:—Not represented.
19. *New Prospect Church*:—In a cold and barren condition.
20. *Pensacola Church*:—In a cold and unfruitful condition.
21. *Pelahatchie Church*:—Cold but steadily improving.
22. *Pleasant Hill Church*:—In a cold and languid condition.
23. *Pleasant Grove Church*:—Not represented. (Reported dissolved.)
24. *Rehoboth Church*:—In a prosperous condition, hope for a revival.
25. *Salem Church*:—Revived and several additions.
26. *Thomastown Church*:—At peace, revived and some additions.

Respectfully submitted,

R. G. BARRETT, Chm'n.

[APPENDIX E.]

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We your committee beg leave to submit the following report.

FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD:

WM. McMURTRAY, PRESIDENT.

D. J. BARNETT, SECRETARY.

F. C. DAVIS, TREASURER.

Committee.

Green Allen, P. A. Gaddis, Wm. Graves, W. Cockraft, W. W. Nichols, Henry I. Beard, R. G. Barrett, W. W. Ely, Jesse Hickman, J. W. Bilbro.

We also recommend the following appointments to preach the next introductory sermon. Eld. Wm. McMurtray and Eld. J. M. Pearson, alternate. Eld. R. G. Barrett, to preach the next missionary sermon.

Respectfully submitted,

T. E. MORRIS, Chm'n.

[APPENDIX F.]

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We your committee beg to make the following report:

Whereas, there exists at this time an alarming and growing tendency on the part of the world to infidelity and a disposition to pervert and mystify the word of God which creates on the part of christians and Baptists particularly the necessity of an educated ministry in order that we may be able to give an intelligible and Scriptural reason for the "Hope that is within us" and thus to stop the mouth of gainsayers—Therefore we would respectfully recommend the appointment of a standing committee of three, one from each Associational District to visit each church within their respective districts and inquire among them for ministerial gifts and request the Churches to raise as much funds as possible for this object, and report the same to the next meeting of the Executive Board, or to the next annual meeting of this Association.

Respectfully submitted,

A. MARSHALL, Chm'n.

[APPENDIX G.]

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

We your committee on Publications beg leave to submit, that while we yet have no denominational organ within the bounds of our state, we are grateful to announce that Elder J. R. Graves has magnanimously surrendered to the Baptists of Miss. one page of that sterling paper the "Baptist." While therefore we desire not to discourage the claims of any denominational paper; yet we feel from those considerations that we are under special obligations to that paper.

The "Baptist," is published weekly at Memphis Tennessee, by Elder J. R. Graves, and the page devoted to Miss. is edited by Elder J. T. Freeman at Corinth Miss. To those interested in the Sabbath School we would recommend "Kind Words," published at Memphis Tennessee by the direction

of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Respectfully submitted

L. N. NICHOLS, Chm'n.

[APPENDIX H.]

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

There is no object more worthy, and that should get a deeper hold upon the affections of every christian heart or that is more clearly commanded by Christ and His apostles than the spread of the "word" the sword of the spirit. Indeed there are but few on earth that are willing to oppose the sacred injunction, "Go teach all nations, baptizing them." But an appeal for supplying the destitute with the preached word finds a warm response in all true Baptist hearts. May we ask, brethren, what you have done, and are doing towards the fulfilment of the great command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." Your statistics return a deplorable answer, comparatively nothing: why is this, is it because you regard the object unworthy, or is it from poverty? We answer not from either of these considerations, but arising perhaps from a want of a proper management of the funds contributed by the churches. Injury no doubt has been done by appointing missionary stations in the vicinity of organized churches and which has served to prejudice such churches against our operations. We would observe that all territory in the vicinity of a church belongs to such church and that it is her duty to supply its members with religious exercise who are unable to attend the meeting of the church.

Your committee would recommend that a missionary be appointed to visit the Mt. Sinai Church at least once, and oftener, if in his judgement, good can be effected, and also to any other of the churches that the Association may deem it her duty to assist in this way. Brethren, in conclusion your committee would suggest that the churches of Harmony Association, be assured that any monies contributed to the Association for missionary work will be used for the purpose intended.

[APPENDIX I.]

REPORT ON FINANCE.

ASSOCIATIONAL FUND.

Antioch Church	\$ 4 00
Bethesda Church	5 00
Bethlehem Church	2 75
Center Hill Church	12 00
Canaan Church	5 00
Dokes Creek Church	5 00
Friendship Church	3 00
Fellowship Church	5 00
Good Hope Church, (Madison)	4 00
Hays' Creek Church	5 00
Jerusalem Church	5 25
Good Hope Church, (Leake)	3 00
Mt. Carmel Church	3 70
Mt. Pisgah Church	4 00
Mt. Zion Church	4 00
New Prospect Church	13 00
Pelahatchie Church	5 00
Pensacola Church	3 00
Pleasant Hill Church	5 00
Rehoboth Church	5 00
Salem Church	5 50
Thomastown Church	3 00
TOTAL	\$110 20

ELDER CRESSHAW.

Antioch Church	\$ 5 00
Bethlehem Church	3 50
Dokes' Creek Church	10 00
Friendship Church	3 25
Mt. Carmel Church	7 65
Mt. Pisgah Church	7 50
New Prospect Church	7 65
Salem Church	4 25
Thomastown Church	5 00
TOTAL	\$53 80

ELDER RUSHING.

Antioch Church	\$5 00
Dokes' Creek Church	6 00
Friendship Church	3 25
Mt. Pisgah Church	7 50
TOTAL	\$21 75

Antioch Church	\$5 00
Fellowship Church	3 25
Good Hope Church, (Leake)	2 75
Collected on Sabbath	28 30
By Brother Green Allen	50 00
TOTAL	\$89 30

We have examined the Treasurer's Report and find it correct.
Respectfully submitted,

W. W. NICHOLS, Chm'n.

Preamble and Constitution.

PREAMBLE:

We the undersigned, having been duly appointed delegates by our respective churches and being now assembled in convention do solemnly unite in the capacity of an Association; and for our direction adopt the following Constitution, Gospel Order, Articles of Faith and Rules of Order.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. *Name and of whom composed*;—This body shall be known by the name of Harmony Baptist Association, and shall be composed of delegates only who are members of the churches they represent, excepting such as may be invited to a seat by the consent of the body.

ART 2. *Terms of Representation*;—Churches represented in this body, shall be entitled to two delegates and an additional one for every Twenty-Five (25) over Fifty (50) members.

ART 3. *Time and place of Meeting*;—This Association shall meet annually at such time and place as shall be previously appointed.

ART 4. *Officers and their Duties*;—After reading the letters from the churches and enrolling the names of the delegates, the Association shall proceed to elect by ballot a Moderator, Treasurer and Clerk. It shall be the duty of the Moderator, to preside and lead in all the transactions of the meetings, and to see that order and decorum are observed by all the members. The Treasurer shall receive all monies belonging to the Association, or its Board and make a report of the state of the Treasury, before the close of each session.

It shall be the duty of the Clerk, to keep a fair and impartial record of all the doings of this body, and keep a regular file of the Minutes, which he shall transmit to his successor in office.

There shall also be fourteen members, elected at each annual meeting

who to either with the above named officers, shall constitute a Board of managers, five of whom shall form a quorum, which Board shall conduct the business of the Association during the interval between the regular meetings. These officers shall continue in office until succeeded by new appointments.

ART. 5. Statistics;—It is expected that the churches will send with their messengers and letters to the Association an account of the state of their respective churches; particularly of the additions and diminutions in the past year, and generally, of whatever relates to their peace and prosperity, together with the whole number of members in communion; with these letters each church shall forward money for the printing of minutes.

ART. 6. Reception of New Churches;—Churches wishing to be represented in this union may apply by letter and messengers, and giving satisfactory information of being sound in faith and practice, may be received and as a token of the same, the Moderator in behalf of the Association shall extend to their messengers the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 7. Privileges of the Association;—Although an associate body, we utterly disclaim all power over the churches, so far as respects an interference with their independence and discipline; yet, we deem it our privilege to judge for ourselves of the propriety of continuing any church in our connection, which is either heterodox in principle or disorderly in practice. In order, however that we may not withdraw our fellowship from any church without sufficient reason, it is proposed that when complaint is made by any two churches of this body against a church belonging to the Association, if thought expedient, they may appoint a Committee who shall request a conference with said church, in order to obtain satisfaction on the points which form the subject of complaint, and shall report the result to the next meeting of the Association in order that they may decide as duty may require.

ART. 8. Neglecting Representation;—When any church shall neglect making a communication to the Association for the space of two years together, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us and of course shall be dropped from the minutes, unless two or more members shall request their continuance, and will also engage to inquire into their standing, and report at the next meeting of the Association.

ART. 9. Of Correspondence;—This Association shall have a right to hold Correspondence with such Associations, societies and individuals as it may think proper.

ART. 10. Of the spread of the Gospel;—It shall be the duty of this Association, from time to time to suggest to the churches what they may think most expedient to be done to promote the spread of the Gospel.

ART. 11. General Provisions;—This Association when convened shall appoint the time and place of their next annual meeting; select a person or persons to preach on the occasion; make any other appointment, or transact any other business they may judge expedient; and shall from time to time make such amendments and alterations to this constitution as experience may dictate; *Provided*, such alteration or amendment shall be carried by a majority of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting.

DECLARATION OF FAITH.

I.—OF THE SCRIPTURES.

We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter; that it reveals the principles to which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinion should be tried.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.—1. 2 Tim. iii. 16, 17. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. Also 2 Pet. i. 21; 2 Sam. xxiii. 2; Acts i. 16; iii. 21; John x. 25; Luke xvi. 29—31; Ps. cxix. 111. Rom. iii. 1, 2.

2. 2 Tim. iii. 15.—The holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation. Also, 1 Pet. i. 10—12; Acts. xi. 14; Rom. i. 16; Mark xvi. 16; John v. 34—39.

3. Prov. xxx. 5, 6: Every word of God is pure. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee and thou be found a liar. Also, John xvii. 17; Rev. xxii. 18, 19; Rom. iii. 4.

4. Rom. ii. 12: As many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law. John xii. 47, 48. If any man hear my words, the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. Also, 1 Cor. iv. 3, 4; Luke x. 10—16; xii. 47, 48.

5. Phil. iii. 16: Let us walk by the same rule; let us mind the same thing. Also, Ephes. iv. 3—6; Phil. ii. 1, 2; 1 Cor. i. 10; 1 Pet. iv. 11.

6. 1 John iv. 1. Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they be of God. Isa. vii. 20. To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. 1 Thess. v. 21. Prove all things. 2 Cor. xii. 5. Prove your own selves. Also Acts xvii. 11; 1 John iv. 6, Jude 3d verse, Eph. vi. 17, Ps. cxix. 59, 60, Phil. i. 9—11.

II.—OF THE TRUE GOD.

That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is JEHOVAH, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT:—1, Psalm lxxxiii. 18. Thou whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the Most High over all the earth. Heb. iii. 4, Rom. i. 20, Jer. x. 10,

2. Exod. xv. 11. Who is like unto Thee, glorious in holiness? Isa. vi. 3; 1 Pet. i. 15, 19, Rev. iv. 6-8.

3. Mark xii. 30. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. Rev. iv. 11. Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honor, and power, for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. Matt. x. 37, Jer. ii. 12, 13.

4. Matt. xxviii. 19. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. John xv. 26. When the Comforter is come, whom I will send you from the Father, even the Spirit of Truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me. 1 Cor. xii. 4-6; 1 John v. 7.

5. John x. 30. I and my Father are one. John v. 17; xiv. 23; Acts v. 3, 4; 1 Cor. iii. 10, 11.

6. Eph. ii. 18. For through him, (the Son) we both have access by one Spirit and the Father. 2 Cor. ii. 14. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. Rev. i. 4, 5.

III.—OF THE FALL OF MAN.

That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but, choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and of their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT:—1. Gen. i. 27. God created man in his own image. Gen. i. 31, And God saw every thing that he had made and behold it was very good. Eccl. vii. 29. Acts 17 20; Gen. ii. 16.

2. Gen. iii. 6-24. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise; she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat: and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat. Therefore the Lord God—drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden, cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life Rom. v. 12.

3. Rom. v. 19. By one man's disobedience many were made sinners. John iii. 16; Ps. li. Rom. v. 15-19; viii. 7.

4. Isa. liii. 6. We have turned, every one to his own way, Gen. vi. 12; Rom. iii. 9-18.

5. Eph. ii. 1-3. Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past, in the lust of our flesh fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. Rom. i. 18. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness, and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness. Rom.

32. Gal. iii. 10. Matt. xxv. 41. Rev. xv. 15.
 6. Ezek. xviii. 19, 20. Yet say ye Why? doth not the son bear the iniquities of the father? The soul that sinneth it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. Rom. i. 20. So that they are without excuse. Rom. iii. 19. That every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Gall. iii. 22.

IV.—THE WAY OF SALVATION.

That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the son of God, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin, honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death, being risen from the dead he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all sufficient Savior.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.—1. Eph. ii. 5. By Grace ye are saved, Matthew xviii. 11; 1 John iv. 10; 1 Cor. iii. 5—7; Acts xv. 11.

2. John iii. 16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John i. 1—14; Heb. vi. 14, xii. 24.

3. Phil. ii. 6, 7. Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God; but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. Heb. ii. 9, iii. 14; 2 Cor. viii. 9.

4. Isa. xii. 21. The Lord is well pleased for his righteousness sake; he will magnify the law and make it honorable. Phil. ii. 8; Gal. iv. 4, 5; Rom. ii. 21.

5. Isa. liii. 4. He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Matthew xx. 28; Rom. iv. 24; iii. 21—26; 1 John iv. 10; ii. 2; 1 Cor. xv. 1—3; Heb. ix. 13—15.

6. Heb. i. 8. Unto the Son he saith, thy throne, O God, is forever and ever. Heb. i. 3; viii. 3; Col. iii. 1—4.

7. Heb. viii. 25. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. Col. ii. 9. For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. Heb. ii. 18 In that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted. Heb. vii. 26. Ps. lxxxix. 18. Ps. xxiv.

V.—OF JUSTIFICATION.

That the great gospel blessing which Christ of his fulness, bestows on such as believe in him is justification; that justification consists in the pardon of sin; and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteous-

ness which we have done ; but solely through His own redemption and righteousness ; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT:—1. John i, 16. Of his fullness we have all received. Eph iii, 8.

2. Acts xiii, 39. By him all that believe are justified from all things. Isa. liii, 11; Rom. viii, 1.

3. Rom. v, 9. Being justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. Zech xiii, 1; Matthew ix, 6; Acts x, 43.

4. Rom. v, 47. They which receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. Titus iii, 5, 6; 1 Pet. iii, 7; 1 John ii, 25. Rom. v, 21.

5. Rom. iv, 4, 5. Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Rom. v, 21, 6, 23; Phil. iii, 7—9.

6. Rom. v, 19. By the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Rom. iii, 24—26; 1 John ii, 12.

7. Rom. v, 1, 2. Being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; by whom also we have access by faith into his grace wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Rom. v, 3. We glory in tribulations also. Rom. v, 11. We also joy in God. 1 Cor. i, 30; Matthew vi, 36; 1 Tim. iv, 8.

VI.—OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel, that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT:—1. Rev. xxii, 17. Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Isa. lv, 1, Luke i, 17.

2. Roman xxi, 25, 26. The gospel—according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith. Mark i, 15, Romans i, 15, 17.

3. John v, 40. Ye will not come unto me, that ye might have life. Matthew xxiii, 37, Romans ix, 32, Proverbs i, 24, Acts xiii, 46.

4. John iii, 19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. Matthew xii, 20; Luke xvi, 27; 2 Thes. i, 8.

VII.—OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.

That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation; by the power

of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT. 1. John iii. 3. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. John iii. 7. Rev. xxi. 7.

2. 2 Cor. v. 20. If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Ezek. xxxvi. Dent. xxx. 6; Rom. ii. 28, 29. v. 5; 1 John iv. 7.

3. John iii. 8. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit. John i. 13. Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. James i. 16--18; 1 Cor. i. 30; Phil. ii. 13.

4. 1 Peter i. 22--25. Ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit. 1 John v. 1. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God. Eph. iv. 20--24; Col. iii. 9--11.

5. Eph. v. 9. The fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, and righteousness and truth. Romans viii. 9; Gal. v. 16--23; Eph. iii. 14--21.

VIII.—OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility; prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree, that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the gospel, is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT. 1. 2 Tim. i. 8, 9. Be not therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel, according to the power of God, who hath saved us and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. Eph. i. 3--14; 1 Peter i. 2; Rom. xi. 5, 6; John xv. 16; 1 John iv. 19; Hos. xii. 9.

2. 2 Thess. ii. 13, 14. But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren, beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you unto salvation through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the truth; whereunto he also called you by our Gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Acts xiii. 48; John x. 16; Matt. xx. 16; Acts xv. 14.

3. Exod. xxxiii. 18, 19. And Moses said, I beseech thee, show me thy glory. And He said, I will cause all my goodness to pass before thee, and

I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. Matt. xx. 15. Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with my own? Is thine eye evil because I am good? Eph. i. 11; Rom. ix. 23, 24; Jer. xxxi. 3; Rom. xi. 28, 29; James i. 17, 18; 2 Tim. ii. 9; Rom. xi. 32-36.

4. 1 Cor. iv. 7. For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory as if thou hadst not received it? 1 Cor. i. 26-31; Rom. iii. 27; iv. 16; Col. iii. 12; 1 Cor. iii. 5-7; xv. 10; 1 Pet. v. 10. Acts i. 24; 1 Thes. ii. 13; 1 Pet. ii. 9; Luke, xviii. 7. John xv. 16. Eph. i. 16. 1 Thes. ii. 12.

5. 2 Tim. ii. 10. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. 1 Cor. ix. 22. I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. Rom. viii. 28-30; John vi. 37-40; 2 Pet. i. 10.

6. 1 Thes. i. 4-10. Knowing, brethren, beloved, your election of God for our Gospel came unto you, not in word only, but in power, &c.

7. Rom. vii. 28-29. Moreover, whom he did predestinate, them he also called, and whom he called he also justified, and whom he justified them he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? Isa. xlii. Rom. xi. 29.

8. 2 Pet. i. 10. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure; for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall, for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Phil. iii. 12; Heb. vi. 11.

IX.—OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.

That such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from mere professors, that a special Providence watches over their welfare and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.—1. John viii. 31. Then said Jesus—if ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed. 1 John ii. 27, 28; iii. 9; v. 18.

2. 1 John ii. 19. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us; but they went out that it might be made manifest that they were not all of us. John, xiii. 18; Matt. xiii. 20, 21; John vi. 66-69.

3. Rom. viii. 28. And we know that all things work together for good unto them that love God, to them that are called according to his purpose. Matt. vi. 30-33; Jer. xxxii. 40; Ps. cxxi. 3; cxi. 11, 12.

4. Phil. i. 6. He who hath begun a good work in you, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. Phil. ii. 12, 13; Jude xxiv. 25; Heb. i. 14. 2 Kings vi. 16; Heb. xiii. 5; John iv. 4.

That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government, that it is holy, just, and good, and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfil its precepts, arising entirely from their love of sin, to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT:—1 Rom. iii. 21. Do we make void the law through faith? God forbid. Yes we establish the law. Matt. v. 17. Luke xvi. 17. Rom. iii. 20. iv. 15.

2. Rom. vii. 12. The law is holy and the commandments holy, just and good. Rom. vii. 7. 14. 22. Gal. iii. 21. Ps. cxix.

3. Rom. viii. 7. 8. The carnal mind is enmity against God, for it is not subject to the law of God, neither can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. Josh. xxiv. 19. Jer. xii. 23. John vi. 44. v. 44.

4. Rom. viii. 2-4. For the law of the Spirit of Life in Jesus Christ hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Rom. x. 4. 1 Tim. i. 5. Heb. viii. 10. Jude 20. 21. Heb. xii. 14.

XI.—OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

That there is radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked, that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem, while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

1. PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT:—Mal. iii. 18. Ye shall discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God, and him that serveth him not. Isa. v. 20. Gen. xviii. 23. Jer. xv. 19. Acts x. 34. 35. Rom. vi. 16.

2. Rom. i. 17. The just shall live by faith. Rom. vi. 18. We are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held, that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter. 1 John ii. 29. If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doth righteousness is born of him; 1 John iii. 7; Rom. vi. 18. 22; 1 Cor. xi. 32; Prov. xi. 31; 1 Peter iv. 17. 18.

3. 1 John v. 19. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. Gal. iii. 10. As many as are of the works of the law are under the curse. John iii. 36; Isa. lvii. 21; Ps. x. 4; Isa. ly. 6.

4. Prov. xiv. 32. The wicked is driven away in his wickedness, but the righteous hath hope in his death. See also the example of the rich man and

Lazarus (Luke xvi. 25, Then in thy life time receivedst the good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. John viii. 21-24; Prov. x. 24, Luke xii. 4, 5, ix. 23-26, John xii. 25, 26, Eccl. iii. 17, Matt. vii. 13, 14)

XII—OF THE WORLD TO COME.

That the end of the world is approaching; that at the last Day, Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution, that a solemn separation will then take place, that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy, and that this judgement will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or in hell, on principles of righteousness.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT:—1. Pet. iv. 7. But the end of all things is at hand, be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer. 1 Cor. vii. 29-31, Heb. i. 10-12; Matt. xxiv. 35, 1 John ii. 17, Matt. xxviii. 20, xii. 39, 45, 2 Pet. iii. 3-13.

2. Acts i. 11. This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Rev. i. 7, Heb. ix. 28, Acts iii. 21, 1 Thess. iv. 13-18, v. 1-11.

3. Acts xxiv. 15. There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. 1 Cor. xv. 12-59, Luke xiv. 14, Dan. xii. 2, John v. 28, 29, vi. 40, xi. 25, 26, 2 Tim. i. 10, Acts x. 42.

4. Matt. xii. 49. The angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just. Matt. xiii. 37-43; xxiv. 30, 31, xxv. 27-33.

5. Matt. xxv. 35-41. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal. Rev. xxii. 11. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still; and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 1 Cor. vi. 9, 10, Mark ix. 43-48, 2 Peter ii. 9, 10, Jude 7, Phil. iii. 19, Rom. vi. 22, 2 Cor. v. 10, 11, John iv. 36, 2 Cor. iv. 18.

6. Romans iii. 5, 6. Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I speak as a man.) God forbid; for how then shall God judge the world? 2 Thess. i. 6-12. Seeing that is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them who trouble you, and to you who are troubled, rest with us, when we shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all of them that believe. Hebrews. vi. 1, 2, 1 Cor. iv. 5, Acts xvii. 31, Rom. ii. 2-16, Rev. xx. 11, 12, 1 John ii. 8, iv. 17.

Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God? 2 Peter. iii. 11, 12.

GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful persons, who have given themselves to the Lord, and to one another in

brotherly covenant, to keep up a godly discipline agreeable to the rules of the New Testament.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only Head and Law-giver of his Church: that the government is with the body, the church, and is equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are gospel ordinances appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in the church until the second coming.

4. We believe that Immersion only is Baptism, and that believers in Christ are the only proper subjects.

5. We believe that none but regular baptised church members have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

6. We believe that it is the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of their faith, to submit to the ordinances of the gospel and give themselves as members to the visible church.

7. We believe it to be the duty of every church to expel from her communion every member that is immoral in conduct, or holds doctrines contrary to the Scriptures.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. At every sitting, business shall be opened and concluded with prayer by the Moderator; or whomsoever he may request.

2. Ministers present—not delegates—invited to take seats with us, may debate on all subjects, but vote on none.

3. No member of the Association shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

4. No person shall speak oftener than three times on any one motion, unless by permission of the Association.

5. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded upon the minutes, except so ordered at the time.

6. If, when a motion has been made and seconded, a member opposes it being discussed, the Moderator shall immediately put the question—"Shall this question be discussed?" Which if negatived, the subject be dismissed.

7. If any proposition or motion, under debate, contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.

8. Arrangements for the next session of the Association shall not be attended to on the first day of the session.

9. On the opening of business the second day, the roll of the messengers commissioned by the churches, shall be called, and all absentees marked.

10. The minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the rising of the Association.

11. These rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair after the organization of the Association.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE HARMONY

Churches.	Counties.	Names of Delegates.	Baptized.
Antioch	Leake	John Johnston, J. G. Moore	19
Bethesda	Madison	Letter—No Delegates	1
Brandon	Rankin	Not Represented	
Bethlehem	Scott	T. J. Denson, J. S. Sprouse	
Center Hill	Leake	William Cockraft	19
Canaan	Leake	S. C. Blalock, C. M. Stewart	1
Dokes' Creek	Madison	A. Marshall, W. W. Nichols, I. N. Nichols, J. Hickman	2
Fellowship	Leake	S. H. Horne	12
Friendship	Leake	C. H. Johnson, G. M. L. F. White	
Good Hope	Madison	R. G. Barrett, J. N. Barrett	1
Haye's Creek	Scott	D. H. Odam, O. H. Parker	2
Jerusalem	Scott	H. B. Lee, Wm. Ratliff, J. N. Denson	
Liberty	Rankin	Not Represented	
Mt. Carmel	Leake	J. H. Cleveland, W. R. Turner	13
Mt. Pisgah	Rankin	Wm. Denson, S. C. Billingsly	
Mt. Zion	Leake	W. C. Brewer	
Good Hope	Leake	T. E. Morris, W. W. Ely	7
Mt. Sinai	Neshoba	Not Represented	
New Prospect	Rankin	William Bland, R. W. Robbins	
Pelahatchie	Rankin	William Taylor, G. G. Brown	3
Pensacola	Leake	Green Allen	
Pleasant Hill	Leake	W. P. Gill	
Pleasant Grove	Leake	Dissolved	
Rehoboth	Rankin	George Davis, T. H. Boyd	7
Salem	Leake	Lewis Philips	8
Thomastown	Leake	William McMurtry, D. J. Barnett	6
			101

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1869.

Received by Letter.	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Dead	Total	Ord'd Ministers.	Licentiates	Time of Conference	No. of Minutes	Post Offices.	By Home Supply.
7	1	8	4		69	1	3	20	Edenburg.	W. B. Hollis.	
1		4			23		1	15	Camden.	A. Marshall.	
								10	Brandon.	J. M. Pearson.	
1		4	1	1	20		4	10	Morton.	Wm. McMurtray.	
3		3		2	144		3	50	Conway.	R. G. Barrett.	
15		2	1		54		1	15	Thomastown.	J. W. Henderson.	
		2		1	143		3	2	Canton.	A. Marshall.	
8		2			41	1	4	20	Walnut Grove.	W. S. Rushing.	
9		11	1	5	52	1		20	Good Hope.	P. M. Gaddis.	
3	1	12		1	47		3	15	Camden.	R. G. Barrett.	
4		13			57		3	30	Hillsboro.	William R. Batte	
	1	13	2	2	88	2	1	1	20	Ludlow.	J. S. Antly.
								10	Brandon.		
					68		2	20	Edenburg.	Wm. McMurtray	
6		1			47	1	3	15	Goshen Springs.	Wm. Denson.	
		1	2	2	47	1		12	High Hill.	W. S. Rushing.	
1		13	6	1	47	1		10	Good Hope.	T. E. Morris.	
7		4		1	51	2	4	10	Dixon.	Wm. Robinson.	
					59		3	20	Pelahatchie.	J. M. Pearson.	
		3		1	47	col'd	2	10	Fannin.	J. M. Pearson.	
5	1	2	2	2	63		1	20	Carthage.		
		4		1	35			12	Carthage.		
		2	4	2					Carthage.		
					113		2	1	35	Goshen Springs.	W. B. Butler.
6		7	3	1	45	1	4	20	Carthage.	R. G. Barrett.	
2		1	1				2	15	Thomastown.	Wm. McMurtray.	
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